

Serial No. 10/799,679  
Amdt. dated June 15, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of March 21, 2005

Docket No. P-0667

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A dispenser for a refrigerator, comprising:
  - a dispenser housing mounted on a front surface of a refrigerator door;
  - a supply pipe provided at an upper portion of the dispenser housing and configured to supply water therethrough;
  - a drain pan detachably disposed at a lower portion of the dispenser housing and configured to collect water therein; and
  - a locking unit provided between the drain pan and the dispenser housing, wherein the locking unit is configured to ~~secure~~ releasably attach the drain pan to the dispenser housing when the locking unit is engaged, and to release the drain pan from the dispenser housing when the locking unit is disengaged through an elastic deformation of the locking unit.
2. (Currently Amended) The dispenser of claim 1, wherein the dispenser housing further comprises an inserting part formed at a lower portion thereof and configured to receive the drain pan, wherein a front surface of the drain pan and a front surface of the refrigerator

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door define a flat surface are substantially coplanar when the drain pan is inserted on the inserting part.

3. (Previously Presented) The dispenser of claim 1, wherein the locking unit comprises:

a locking groove formed at a rear portion of the dispenser housing; and  
a locking hook formed at a rear portion of the drain pan and configured to engage with the locking groove.

4. (Previously Presented) The dispenser of claim 3, wherein a through hole formed at a rear portion of the dispenser housing is configured to allow the locking hook to pass therethrough, wherein a first support rib extends back from an upper portion of the through hole and bends downwardly, and wherein the locking groove is formed at an end portion of the first support rib.

5. (Previously Presented) The dispenser of claim 4, wherein the locking groove has a curved form.

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6. (Previously Presented) The dispenser of claim 3, wherein the locking hook protrudes from an end portion of a second support rib which extends in a horizontal direction from a rear portion of the drain pan.

7. (Previously Presented) The dispenser of claim 6, wherein the locking hook comprises a curved protrusion corresponding to the locking groove and is configured to engage the locking groove.

8. (Previously Presented) The dispenser of claim 1, wherein the supply pipe is further configured to supply ice therethrough.

9. (Previously Presented) The dispenser of claim 1, further comprising a switch configured to open the supply pipe when activated, and to close the supply pipe when deactivated.

10. (Previously Presented) The dispenser of claim 2, wherein the drain pan is configured to be slidably inserted onto the inserting part.

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11. (Previously Presented) The dispenser of claim 4, wherein the first support rib and the locking groove are configured to deform in response to a force applied by the locking hook.
12. (Previously Presented) The dispenser of claim 11, wherein the drain pan is configured to be slildably inserted onto the inserting part and secured into place by the locking unit with a single, substantially horizontal motion.
13. (Previously Presented) The dispenser of claim 11, wherein the drain pan is configured to be released by the locking unit and removed from the dispenser housing with a single, substantially horizontal motion.
14. (Previously Presented) The dispenser of claim 5, wherein the locking groove has a substantially semi-circular form.
15. (Previously Presented) The dispenser of claim 5, wherein the locking groove has a convex form.
16. (Previously Presented) The dispenser of claim 7, wherein the locking hook has a substantially semi-circular form.

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17. (Previously Presented) The dispenser of claim 7, wherein the locking hook has a concave form.

18. (Previously Presented) A refrigerator comprising the dispenser of claim 1.

19. (Currently Amended) A dispenser for a refrigerator, comprising:  
a housing configured to be mounted on an outer surface of ~~the a~~ refrigerator;  
a drain pan configured to be slidably installed on the housing and configured to collect fluids therein; and  
a locking unit configured to releasably secure the drain pan ~~in place on and~~ the housing ~~when the locking unit is, and to be engaged, and to release the drain pan from the housing when the locking unit is and~~ disengaged ~~through an elastic deformation of the locking unit.~~

20. (Previously Presented) The dispenser of claim 19, wherein the locking unit comprises:

a first support rib which extends back from an upper portion of a through hole formed in the housing;

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a second support rib which extends back from a rear portion of the drain pan and which is configured to pass through the through hole when the drain pan is slidably installed or removed;

a locking hook formed at an end portion of the second support rib; and

a locking groove formed at an end portion of the first support rib and configured to engage the locking hook when the drain pan is installed, and to disengage the locking hook when the drain pan is removed.

21. (Previously Presented) The dispenser of claim 20, wherein the first support rib and the locking groove have an elastic quality and are configured to deform in response to a force applied by the second support rib and the locking hook.

22. (Previously Presented) The dispenser of claim 20, wherein the locking groove has a substantially semi-circular form.

23. (Previously Presented) The dispenser of claim 22, wherein the locking hook has a substantially semi-circular form which corresponds to the substantially semi-circular form of the locking groove.

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24. (Previously Presented) The dispenser of claim 19, further comprising a supply line positioned at an upper portion of the housing and configured to supply fluids therethrough.

25. (Previously Presented) The dispenser of claim 19, wherein the drain pan is configured to be slidably installed on a lower horizontal surface of the housing.

26. (Previously Presented) The dispenser of claim 19, wherein the supply pipe is further configured to supply ice therethrough.

27. (Previously Presented) The dispenser of claim 19, further comprising a switch configured to open the supply pipe when activated, and to close the supply pipe when deactivated.

28. (Previously Presented) The dispenser of claim 19, wherein the drain pan is configured to be slidably inserted onto the housing and secured into place by the locking unit with a single, substantially horizontal motion.

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29. (Previously Presented) The dispenser of claim 19, wherein the drain pan is configured to be released by the locking unit and removed from the housing with a single, substantially horizontal motion.
30. (Previously Presented) A refrigerator comprising the dispenser of claim 19.
31. (Currently Amended) A dispenser for a refrigerator, comprising:  
a dispenser housing mounted on a front surface of a refrigerator door;  
a supply pipe mounted positioned at an upper portion of the dispenser housing and supplying water configured to supply fluid therethrough;  
a drain pan detachably disposed at a lower surface of the dispenser housing and collecting water configured to collect fluid therein; and  
a locking unit for locking provided between the drain pan and the dispenser housing and configured to lock the drain pan to the dispenser housing provided between the drain pan and the dispenser housing, comprising:  
a locking groove formed at a rear surface of the dispenser housing; and  
a locking hook formed at a rear surface of a drain pan and configured to engage with the locking groove.

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32. (New) A dispenser for a refrigerator, comprising:
- a dispenser housing mounted on a front surface of a refrigerator door;
  - a supply pipe provided at an upper portion of the dispenser housing and configured to supply water therethrough;
  - a drain pan detachably disposed at a lower portion of the dispenser housing and configured to collect water therein; and
  - a locking unit provided between the drain pan and the dispenser housing, wherein the locking unit is configured to secure the drain pan to the dispenser housing when the locking unit is engaged, and to release the drain pan from the dispenser housing when the locking unit is disengaged, wherein the locking unit comprises:
    - a locking groove formed at a rear portion of the dispenser housing; and
    - a locking hook formed at a rear portion of the drain pan and configured to engage with the locking groove, wherein a through hole formed at a rear portion of the dispenser housing is configured to allow the locking hook to pass therethrough, wherein a first support rib extends back from an upper portion of the through hole and bends downwardly, and wherein the locking groove is formed at an end portion of the first support rib.

33. (New) A dispenser for a refrigerator, comprising:
- a dispenser housing mounted on a front surface of a refrigerator door;

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a supply pipe provided at an upper portion of the dispenser housing and configured to supply water therethrough;

    a drain pan detachably disposed at a lower portion of the dispenser housing and configured to collect water therein; and

    a locking unit provided between the drain pan and the dispenser housing, wherein the locking unit is configured to secure the drain pan to the dispenser housing when the locking unit is engaged, and to release the drain pan from the dispenser housing when the locking unit is disengaged, wherein the locking unit comprises:

        a locking groove formed at a rear portion of the dispenser housing; and

        a locking hook formed at a rear portion of the drain pan and configured to engage with the locking groove, wherein the locking hook protrudes from an end portion of a second support rib which extends in a horizontal direction from a rear portion of the drain pan.

34. (New) A dispenser for a refrigerator, comprising:

    a housing configured to be mounted on an outer surface of a refrigerator;

    a drain pan configured to be slidably installed on the housing and configured to collect fluids therein; and

    a locking unit configured to secure the drain pan in place on the housing when the locking unit is engaged, and to release the drain pan from the housing when the locking unit is

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disengaged, wherein the locking unit comprises:

a first support rib which extends back from an upper portion of a through hole formed in the housing;

a second support rib which extends back from a rear portion of the drain pan and which is configured to pass through the through hole when the drain pan is slidably installed or removed;

a locking hook formed at an end portion of the second support rib; and

a locking groove formed at an end portion of the first support rib and configured to engage the locking hook when the drain pan is installed, and to disengage the locking hook when the drain pan is removed.

35. (New) The dispenser of claim 32, wherein the first support rib and the locking groove are configured to deform in response to a force applied by the locking hook.

36. (New) The dispenser of claim 35, wherein the drain pan is configured to be slidably inserted onto the inserting part and secured into place by the locking unit with a single, substantially horizontal motion, and released by the locking unit and removed from the dispenser housing with a single, substantially horizontal motion.

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37. (New) The dispenser of claim 32, wherein the locking groove has a substantially semi-circular form.

38. (New) A refrigerating comprising the dispenser of claim 32.

39. (New) The dispenser of claim 33, wherein the locking hook comprises a curved protrusion corresponding to the locking groove and is configured to engage the locking groove.

40. (New) The dispenser of claim 39, wherein the locking hook has a substantially semi-circular form.

41. (New) A refrigerating comprising the dispenser of claim 33.

42. (New) The dispenser of claim 34, wherein the first support rib and the locking groove have an elastic quality and are configured to deform in response to a force applied by the second support rib and the locking hook.

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43. (New) The dispenser of claim 34, wherein the locking hook has a substantially semi-circular form which corresponds to a substantially semi-circular form of the locking groove.

44. (New) A refrigerating comprising the dispenser of claim 34.